NO. 5165 P. 10

Appl. No. 10/643,394
AMENDMENT FILED CONCOMITANT WITH RCE

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the arguments provided in the last

AMENDMENT is respectfully requested in view of the amendments

made to the claims hereinabove. The reasoning in the Examiner's

Advisory Action as to why the earlier arguments were insufficient

include, among others, that the claims are not limited to a

crosslinked binder. The amendments made hereinabove were in an

endeavor to require that the binder only contain a polymer

compound crosslinked through side chains of the polymer. This

was done by deleting the term "binder" and simply leaving the

polymer compound recited.

Although the earlier arguments refer to the crosslinked hydrophilic binder, wherever such a reference is made, the arguments refer to the polymer compound which comprised the binder in the earlier version of the claims.

In view of the amendments, it is submitted that the Examiner's objections to the earlier arguments overcoming the art, are avoided. Reconsideration is therefore respectfully requested.

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Withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Frishauf, Holtz, Goodman & Chick, P.C.
220 Fifth Ave., 16th Floor
New York, NY 10001-7708
Tel. No. (212) 319-4900
Fax No.: (212) 319-5101

MJC/ld

MARSHXLY J. CHICK Reg. No. 26,853

Respectfylly submitted,